

TRIBUTE TO DOMINICK GIOVINAZZO

• Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to say a few words about a good friend of mine upon his retirement.

I have known Dominick Giovinnazzo, the retiring Executive Director of the Greater Nashua, NH, Boys and Girls Club, for many, many years. During that time, I have regarded him as one of the finest people I know. For the past 28 years, he has worked at the Greater Nashua Club and has dedicated himself to serving the kids who are members there. He is a passionate advocate of child safety and has worked to ensure that no child in the city of Nashua has to spend his or her afternoons and weekends on the streets or doing drugs. He has become an advisor and mentor to the staff of all of the New Hampshire Clubs; his wisdom and experience have guided each Boys and Girls Club in the State to become strong pillars of their communities. Most importantly, he has been a good friend to his own community and to his fellow public servants. Over the years, I have appreciated his friendship, support, and guidance. I can only hope that others will follow his example of charity and dedication.

Rarely does one come across another human being who so fully dedicates himself to a life of helping others. It was Dominick who brought the importance and success of the Boys and Girls Clubs to my attention many years ago. And it was because of his tireless advocacy for the Clubs that I have worked so hard to ensure that the federal government helps fund the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Dominick showed me the importance of giving our youth a safe place to go and dependable, responsible friends to lean on.

No other person so richly deserves an easy retirement than Dominick Giovinnazzo. I wish him luck in his future endeavors, and I am sure that he will never stop caring about and lending his talents and civic-minded wisdom to his community. He is a valuable resource who I know the City of Nashua, the Greater Nashua Boys and Girls Club, and his other friends and admirers will rely on for years to come.●

THE DEDICATION OF THE SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD TRIPLE GATE MONUMENTAL STAIRS AND OBSERVATION PLAZA

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise to honor the dedication of the Second Temple period Triple Gate Monumental Stairs and Observation Plaza which will take place this weekend in Jerusalem. This is a new site in the Jerusalem Archaeological Park which has been developed by the Israel Antiquities Authority, focusing on the southern wall of the Temple Mount En-

closure. This restoration project has been dedicated and supported by Dorothy Davidson Gerson and Byron Gerson in loving memory of Sarah and Ralph Davidson. The dedication ceremony for Gerson Observation Plaza will take place on Sunday, October 3 and will be attended by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and the Mayor of Jerusalem Ehud Olmert among many others.

The Triple Gate and the Double Gate, also known as the Huldah Gates, were a key entrance to the Temple Mount for pilgrims during biblical times. This area of the southern wall was badly damaged following the destruction of the Second Temple. The western Huldah Gate, or Double Gate, now lies below the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The eastern Huldah Gate, or Triple Gate, consisted of three arched entryways at the time of the Second Temple. Now parts of the threshold and the doorjamb are all that remain of the Triple Gate. In front of the Triple Gate was once a monumental staircase. Much of this staircase has now been reconstructed affording visitors the opportunity to envision the southern entrances to the Temple Mount during the Second Temple period.

This important archaeological restoration effort would not have been possible without the generous support of Dorothy Davidson Gerson and Byron Gerson. They have made possible an extraordinary view of an ancient treasure which has transcendent meaning. I know my Senate colleagues join me in honoring this historic event and thanking Dorothy Davidson Gerson and Byron Gerson for their extraordinary efforts.●

CELEBRATION OF WOOD COUNTY'S BICENTENNIAL

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am proud to draw the attention of Congress and the American people to a very special milestone in the State of West Virginia. Wood County, WV, is celebrating its bicentennial and a two-hundred year history of importance and progress thanks to the continual spirit of its leaders and citizens.

Over the past year, through the Wood County Bicentennial Commission, events and activities have taken place to commemorate the county's rich history and install a spirit of excitement about the years to come. People of all ages, throughout the county, have been involved in historic exhibits, contests, and special ways to share the past and prepare for the future.

With this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I will make this my submission to the next major event in the bicentennial celebration—the placing of a “Time Capsule” at the Wood County Courthouse. With my fellow West Virginians in Wood County, I envision the day one hundred years from

the day this capsule will be stored when a future Senator of West Virginia will be presented this piece of history. I am confident that in October of 2099, Wood County will continue to be a center of economic progress, community spirit and commitment, and other features that have defined this corner of the nation for two hundred years already.

Wood County has a long history, in particular, in playing a major role in the development of the oil and gas industry in the State and the county. through its resources and industrial progress, Wood County has been the source of fuel for prosperity and growth way beyond its borders.

The county is also proud to house a significant chemical industry, manufacturing the critical components of products world-wide and involved in path-breaking research and development. For example, the largest DuPont facility in the corporate structure resides outside of Parkersburg on the land that George Washington once owned.

Wood County has tremendous treasures in the form of both its people and its material assets. I join its leadership and citizens in celebrating this bicentennial year, and playing my part in the time Capsule that will reappear another century from now. And I know that All Americans wish Wood County continued prosperity and progress.●

KEEPING KIDS ALIVE

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, last week in Michigan, a coalition of members in the House of Representatives introduced a comprehensive package of gun safety legislation. The principal sponsors of this package are State Representatives Laura Baird, Gilda Jacobs and Samuel Thomas II, three leaders in the state of Michigan on making our state safer for children.

The legislation introduced in the Michigan State House is designed to keep kids alive in Michigan and safe from gun violence. It would create gun-free zones in areas such as schools, day care centers, churches, libraries, hospitals and sports arenas; make Michigan the eighteenth state to enact a child access prevention law, requiring that trigger locks be sold with handguns; close the gun show loophole by requiring that unlicensed dealers be subject to the same standards as licensed dealers; and limit individuals to one handgun purchase a month.

This legislation, if enacted, would make Michigan one of the most responsible gun safety states in the country. By taking firearms out of the hands of minors and closing loopholes that permit criminals easy access to weapons, Lansing will send a clear message to Michigan mothers and fathers that the state is acting to protect children from gun violence.